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VOLUME 5

Atlanta, Georgia - April 1939

VOLUME 4

### OUR BABY GROWS

Some interesting things about the Forest Service timber business is revealed by the receipts statement for the first nine months of this fiscal year. Region 6 is first with \$619,723, Region 8 is second with \$373,428, and Region 2 third with \$235,837, while the Service as a whole shows \$1,987,165 which is a reduction of \$71,545 from last year. Timber sale receipts from Region 8 were about \$10,000 more than those from Regions 1, 4, 7, 9 and 10 combined, although the combined areas of the latter five regions is nearly ten times that of our little southern National Forests.

In total receipts, Region 8 was fourth being surpassed by Regions 6, 5 and 2, but Regions 6 and 8 were the only ones which showed an increase over last year. Region 8 also had the distinction of being the only one which took in any money for fish and game under which it showed receipts of \$4,740. Small, yes, but then we've just started developing this resource and receipts will grow. Our special use business was \$24,102 being fourth for the Service and this, too, will grow. Of course, we fall way short of the West in our grazing business where we only took in \$1,248 for cattle and nothing for sheep and goats, but why worry if we can grow \$10 timber instead of goat steaks.

In the Region itself the old reliable Ouachita stands first with \$104,756, but Frank Albert down there in Florida nosed out Henry Koen with \$73,150 against \$63,798. Then they drift off to Sears who is way behind the first string with only \$25,445, but watch him next year. Even the smallest National

Forest in the whole United States, the Caribbean in Puerto Rico, did pretty well. It only has 25,000 acres but it brought in \$1,328.

They'll accuse me of blowing my horn. Why not? I bossed the job of raising this southern baby, now grown into a husky youth, and I'm proud of him. I need add just one thing more. Watch us go to town! We'll top them all in a few years and, with it, contribute more to human welfare than any of the rest. I repeat--Watch our chips fly!

-- JOSEPH C. KIRCHER

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#### "DOG FIGHTS AND ORGANIZATION CHARTS"

This article, under the above title by Thomas R. Jones, appeared in The Management Review for January 1939, as abstracted from Dun's Review, and is quoted here:

"A fairly successful owner-manager of a pre-war manufacturing business once said, 'Organization? Huh! I just throw a man in, and if he's any good he'll make a place for himself.'

"Anyone with organization experience will readily picture the result of such a policy. The good man will make a place for himself, and the best man will win - but the one may be a good bluffer and the other the best politician. The chance that the good business man or the best executive will have an opportunity to rise to the top is small, as they are usually not built for that particular brand of dog fight.

"But can we say that there is no merit whatever to the gentleman's idea of dog-eat-dog? Is not a modicum of dog-eat-dog essential to the efficient operation of any live enterprise? Let us pursue this idea further.

"Every business should have an organization chart; this is axiomatic. But in drawing up organization charts, three serious mistakes are frequently made.

"The first and basic mistake lies in thinking of an organization as a machine, rather than as a structure of intangible human abilities.

"A second common error is the failure to realize that organization is a continuous process. Human abilities, and the requirements for combinations of abilities, change faster than is generally realized. An executive who does not reconsider his organization setup every six months in the light of human and other changes is not covering his job.



"The third error which is often made lies in believing that an organization chart represents anything other than a rough idea of a temporary group of conditions."

"Organizing is the assembling of a human jigsaw puzzle in which the pieces never exactly fit; like Alice, they change their relative sizes from time to time. The intelligent organizer indicates borders of authority and responsibility only roughly so that he may watch the process of adjustment and legitimize new alignments as they take place and become apparently desirable. In other words, he accepts the inevitability of flux.

"A sales manager may possess a keen sense of product requirements and the technique of satisfying them. He may thus dominate engineering design or product policy. The treasurer may have a peculiar bent for solving certain sales problems, and so on. The smart chief executive makes maximum use of the varied and unduplicated assortments of abilities enclosed in his human packages. In truth, he adopts a bit of the dog-eat-dog policy.

"This is no policy for a lazy man. It entails constant watchfulness to see that friction is minimized and to stamp out attempts to make political hay. The executive who undertakes this has assigned himself a permanent job - but if that is not as it should be, what is the permanent job of the chief executive?"

-- R. J. RIEBOLD, Personnel Officer

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#### SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY FORUM ELECTS OFFICERS

At the monthly meeting of the South Carolina Forestry Forum on April 3, Norman R. Hawley, Management Assistant on the South Carolina and Croatan National Forests, was elected president of the club.

The Forestry Forum (Dixie Ranger, November 1938) is made up of professional foresters in the State and Federal Forest Services, the National Park Service, and the Soil Conservation Service, located at Columbia, South Carolina. The purpose of the organization is to promote and maintain better understanding and a closer working relation between foresters in the various State and Government Departments.

Other officers elected at the April meeting were Mr. J. L. Duford, Inspector National Park Service, vice-president; Mr. Randolph A. Walker, Assistant State Forester in Charge of Lands and Parks, secretary-treasurer.

-- F. W. Bennett, Assistant Forest Supervisor

RECORD FOR FIRE CONTROL MADE IN MISSISSIPPI  
NATIONAL FORESTS

During February the Forest Service established a new record for fire control on the National Forests in Mississippi for this particular month. Only 33 fires occurred, burning 1,385 acres on the one million and a quarter acres under federal protection. The best previous February record was made in 1937 when 48 fires burned 1,741 acres.

-- Laurel Leader Call

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INTERNATIONAL FAME FOR THE FAWN FARM

Sometime ago the Regional Office filled a request from the English publication "Picture Post" for photographs and information on the Fawn Farm. John Squires of the Pisgah has just forwarded a letter postmarked London, England which indicates that this material was used. The address on the envelope of this letter was:

"The Fawn Rearing Farm,  
The Pisgah National Forest,  
Near Brevard,  
North Carolina, U.S.A."

The letter, dated March 22, is quoted:

"Dear Sir:

Recently I was reading an article in 'Picture Post' about your fawns. That sort of life and work appeals to me tremendously, and I am wondering whether there would be any chance of an opening and future for me working with you. I am nearly twenty years old, strong and fit.

Yours sincerely,

Ivor Ayers"

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BULLETIN FROM DUKE UNIVERSITY

The Duke University School of Forestry will graduate this spring, in its first graduating class, a few men well qualified for and eager for employment in the lumber industry. No under-graduate degrees are conferred by the Duke School of Forestry as only graduate instruction is given. Students come to the Duke School of Forestry from all sections of the United States and this year, for example, there are men enrolled with practical knowledge and experience in various forest regions of North America.

-- National Lumber Manufacturers Assn.

## READ AT YOUR OWN RISK

We have tapped out one S-O-S call after another and cried "Wolf!" time and again. Now, will somebody please tell us how to get out a paper without news and contributions? This is supposed to be a representative sheet for thirteen Forests, two Experiment Stations and seven regional office divisions. These count up to a lot of potential contributors, practically all of whom are deaf, dumb, and blind to our entreaties for help in getting out twelve issues of the Dixie Ranger every year.

We have counted back through the past twelve numbers and not one single Forest is represented in every issue or in every other issue even. Most of you will be amazed to find how few contributions your Forest has made, if you will just check up. In several of the issues we were forced to write our own lead article. That particularly riles us, not so much because we had to write them with one hand while we were busy working at three other things with the other, but because so many of these potential contributors we have just mentioned could have written them so much better. That isn't all. At various times there have been howls from Forests and regional office divisions about not getting into print here.

Of course, there have been times when deserving ones missed the mark by a narrow margin. Regrettably, articles often arrive after we have gone to press and naturally lose their timeliness before the next issue is due. Remember the demand is for articles of general interest--brief and lively. In a state of complete discouragement we state here and now the present Dixie Ranger is the best we can do without more articles from more writers. As one solution to the problem, each field station might appoint a "local correspondent" who would be responsible for sending in items worthy of record.

Beginning with the May issue, the first day of every month will be the deadline. That is, material must be in the Regional Office by the first to be included in that month's issue. And, while this issue leaves us in a dejected state, now that Spring is here, we are trying to foster a hope that those who, as Joe Hessel says, "donated not even so much as a semi-colon" during the winter will feel the urge to express themselves. Anyway, if the Dixie Ranger is to keep going, it needs help not just once a year but twelve times a year.

-- A Belabored Editor

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## THE CHATTAHOOCHEE SETS UP ANOTHER RECORD

Supervisor Fischer reports that apparently another record tree has been discovered on the Chattahoochee. Over a year ago, Junior Forester Ross, while cruising timber in Jack's River district, encountered a sassafras 36 inches DBH. It is assumed that a new record was established since the rules committee has never declared



its opinion. The Chattahoochee won by default anyway. The new find is a Virginia pine 26 inches DBH which contains at least three 16-foot logs, the top diameter of the top log being no less than 17 or 18 inches. This amazing specimen of a much-maligned species is as large as the largest shortleaf pines found in this area, which, by the way, is the new Hood-Walnut sale area on the Tallulah Ranger District. It is hard to believe that this trim clean giant is a brother to the small limby and generally scrubby-looking Virginia pine of this section. The Chattahoochee also has within its boundary an apple tree reputed to be the largest on record anywhere.

(Editor's Note: Good going, Chattahoochee! This tree record business grows in interest. We really expect to hear more about this "Old Apple Tree." It wouldn't surprise us for the Chattahoochee to make claim for the original land-use permit to Adam for the Garden of Eden.)

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FORESTRY HAS A PART IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Members of forestry groups participated in the winter meeting at Richmond of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Papers were given by Dr. H. L. Shirley on the influence of soil fertility on drought resistance of seedling conifers; the invasion of pine into abandoned fields in the southern Piedmont region by Dr. W. E. McQuilkin; the ecology of southern forests in relation to silvicultural practice by C. F. Korstian; and the normal growth and development of southern pine seedlings in the nursery by M. A. Huberman. The entire morning session (comprising 12 papers) of the American Phytopathological Society was devoted to forest pathology.

The March issue of the Journal of Forestry reported this meeting, a section of which is quoted:

"Section O on Agriculture with which the Society of American Foresters is affiliated held a joint symposium on land use with Section K (Social and Economic Sciences) addressed by Dr. H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, and others.

"...Of forestry interest was the grant of \$200 voted to Dr. A. H. Graves of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden for continued research on blight-resistant chestnut. Dr. Henry Schmitz was elected a vice-president of the Association and chairman of Section O.

"A resolution, which may prove of far-reaching importance to foresters, was passed by the Council authorizing the creation of a human relations council to study the social and economic aspects of forest fire prevention, enforcement of forest laws, and other relationships between forestry, soil conservation, and people



affected by these operations. This council is to be composed of ten members nominated by a score of societies representing the social sciences, psychology, anthropology, and economics. The resolution was submitted by a committee representing these societies and organized at the suggestion of the U. S. Forest Service...

"The advisory services of this council, it should be emphasized, are to be equally available to all federal, state, and private agencies or individuals requesting them. Forestry associations, for instance, will no doubt be interested in the psychologists' analysis of their fire prevention and other conservation propaganda; fire warning posters and 'no trespass' signs will be subjected to scrutiny and the wording and design best adapted to obtain the desired results will be evolved--at least such are some of the possibilities. It is to be hoped that some means may be found of financing the council so that it may be actually productive of results."

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#### GEORGIA D.A.R. ADOPTS RESOLUTION FOR REFORESTATION PROJECT

The Georgia Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution at their state conference at Atlanta on March 16 adopted as their Jubilee project the reforestation of 100 acres of land, to be planted with pine trees by the U. S. Forest Service at \$2.50 per acre and thereafter to be cared for by the Forest Service. The tract will be known as the Georgia Daughters of the American Revolution Golden Jubilee Forest. Mrs. Ober D. Warthen, National Chairman of Conservation writes as follows: "My report for Washington is now in preparation and the records show that 397 acres have been planted by the D.A.R. as forestry projects in celebration of the Golden Jubilee; 1150 acres voted for 1940 planting, money in hand for planting 118 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres and 124 acres set in state and chapter D.A.R. forests, a total of 1789 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. I feel sure that 1940 will bring us near the goal of 2500 acres."

-- W. O. Information Digest

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#### INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN REGIONAL OFFICE

Representatives of the Southern and Appalachian Forest Experiment Stations and representatives from some of the Forests in the field met in the Regional Office April 5 and 6 to discuss with Regional and Washington office representatives present and proposed research projects.

The first day was devoted to Fire Control and the second day to Timber, Range and Wildlife Management, with opportunity for presentation of any other subjects. Committees were assigned to summarize the conclusions of the meeting in reports which were read to the group and modified as necessary.

The following were present for all or part of the two days: From the Appalachian Station were L. I. Barrett, S. D. Beichler, George M. Jemison, R. E. McArdle and R. M. Nelson; from the Southern Station were C. A. Bickford, W. E. Bond, Henry Bull, and E. L. Demmon. From the Washington office Burt P. Kirkland and R. E. Marsh were present. G. K. Stephenson, P. H. Bryan, and Charles Melichar represented the Alabama, Kisatchie, and Nantahala National Forests respectively. Regional Office members taking part in the meeting were H. O. Stabler, L. L. Bishop, J. F. Brooks, F. M. Cossitt, C. F. Evans, W. R. Hine, W. R. Paddock and A. J. Streinz.

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ADIOS!

The following letter was received from Walter B. Dillon and is quoted:

"915 West Silver Avenue  
Albuquerque, N. M.  
March 10, 1939

"Regional Forester,  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Kircher:

I would like to use the columns of the Dixie Ranger to broadcast my farewells to the personnel of Region 8, since it is obviously impossible for me to write each of them personally, and I am certain that they will miss me!

Seriously, I very much regret the necessity of leaving Region 8 where I made many fine contacts both within and without the Service. I want each of those with whom I have had personal dealings to feel assured that their friendships were and are fully appreciated and distance will only lend charm to memory.

I am glad, of course, to return to my own bailiwick in Region 3 where the pure air blows free over snow-capped mountains, and my bronchial tubes do not have the added duty of expelling swamp germs and chopping up the heavy fogs rolling in from the Gulf before I can get air into my lungs. Boys and girls come on out here and I will show you air as is air and not just wet atmosphere!

Adios, mi amigos de Region 8.

Walter B. Dillon"

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## QUIZ

1. What wood is used in the construction of skis? In the construction of golf club heads?
2. Do you know the interesting derivation of the term "lumber"?
3. Where is the town of Herty located?
4. The new piano in the White House is made of what kind of wood?
5. What former Supervisor of a southern National Forest is soon to become Dean of what famous School of Forestry?

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## ANSWERS TO QUIZ IN LAST MONTH'S ISSUE

1. Ralph C. Bryant, author of well-known books on logging and lumber, was the first graduate in 1900 of New York School of Forestry established at Cornell University in 1898, the first forest school established in the United States.
2. Osceola, Sam Houston, and Davy Crockett died in the 19th century.
3. A turpentine borer is an insect. An increment borer is an instrument which may be used to determine the age of a tree.
4. The designation "Forest Service" became effective July 1, 1905 (Act of March 3, 1905).
5. Indian meanings: Alabama, the name of a tribe in southern Alabama of the Creek Confederacy; Alibamu, from the Choctaw, means "I open or clear the thicket"; Nantahala: "Noon-day Sun" because of the high cliffs which shut out the view of the sun until nearly noon; Ouachita means "Good Hunting Grounds"; Arkansas Algonkin name of the Quapaw Indians; Tennessee: the Indian name for the chief town of the Cherokees, which was situated on the Tennessee River; Mississippi: "Big River".
6. Blood Mountain, near Neel Gap in north Georgia, is known as "the Home of the Nunnehi", the friendly spirits of the Cherokee Indians.
7. Oklahoma was organized as a Territory of the United States in 1890.
8. The longest marked path in the world, the Appalachian Trail, reaches from Mt. Oglethorpe in Georgia to Mt. Katahdin in Maine.

-- Rachel Lane, Librarian



## PERSONNEL CHANGES

Jr. Forester William O. Stewart has been restored to the rolls from furlough and transferred from the Florida to duty on the Jacksonville district of the Naval Stores project.

Duration probationary appointments as Junior Clerk-Stenographers have been effected recently for Miss Roberta L. Salzman on the Ozark and Miss Claire H. Kimbrough on the Alabama.

The following changes in Forest Administrative Assistants have been approved: Claude A. Brown from the Caribbean to the Cherokee, effective March 1; Frank R. Yates from the Ouachita to the Caribbean, effective April 1; Elvin T. Brasher from the Cherokee to the Ouachita, effective April 1; Tollie T. Hall from the Pisgah to the Nantahala, and Jack O. Werner from the Nantahala to the Pisgah, effective May 16.

Announcement is made of the probationary appointment of Frank H. Stewart as Under Clerk-Typist in the Ashe Nursery office of the Mississippi.

Minor Assistant to Technician Howard I. Brock on the Cherokee has resigned to accept employment in private business.

Appointments in the Classified Service as Under Clerk-Typists have been effected recently for the following: Miss Maude A. Richards, on the Florida; Mrs. Ruby S. Harper, Kisatchie; Mrs. Magenta S. Kemp, Mississippi; Mrs. Blanche M. Duren, Ouachita; Mrs. Lydia B. Carpenter and Mrs. Dorothy M. Childers, Nantahala, and Mrs. Mary C. Gladstone on the Pisgah.

Minor Assistant to Technician Hardin E. Ross, motion picture operator, has been transferred from the Cherokee to the Armuchee RD of the Chattahoochee.

Charles F. Sheets has been transferred from the Cherokee to the Pisgah, where he will be engaged as Assistant to Technician on acquisition surveys.

Asst. Training Supervisor Ralph E. Kenck has resigned to resume employment with the State of Montana.

Miss Rachel L. Lincoln, Chief Clerk in the Timber Management Division of the Regional Office, has been transferred to the New England Forest Emergency project in Boston.

William R. Silcocks, District Ranger on the Talladega RD of the Alabama, was transferred on April 1 to the Caribbean as CCC Staff Assistant.

Assistant Forester Seaborn J. Johnson was transferred on April 1 from the Ouachita to the position of Management Staff Assistant on the Alabama.



Harold B. Donaldson, who has been Ranger in charge of the Oden RD on the Ouachita, has been transferred to the Supervisor's office on that Forest and assigned to the Management staff.

Assistant Forester Lawrence S. Newcomb has returned to the Region from his detail to the New England Timber Salvage Administration and has been transferred from the Management Staff Assistant position on the Alabama to the Ouachita, where he will be in charge of the Oden RD.

John Wasilik, Jr. has been transferred recently from the Supervisor's office of the Nantahala, where he was in charge of acquisition activities, to the District Ranger position on the Wayah RD.

District Ranger William M. Palmer, Jr. has been transferred from the Mountain RD of the SC&Croatan to the Tusquittoe on the Nantahala. He is succeeded on the Mountain RD by Fred W. Wiese, who was transferred from the Wayah RD on the Nantahala.

On April 16 Gerald H. Griswold will be transferred from the Cold Springs RD of the Ouachita to the Mt. Mitchell district of the Pisgah, where he will succeed Nelson F. Rogers, transferred recently to the New England Timber Salvage Administration. Theodore S. Seely of the Chattahoochee has been selected to succeed Griswold on the Cold Springs.

Jr. Forester Daniel E. Manges was transferred on April 1 from the Cherokee, where he was in charge of Wildlife Management, to the Wayah RD of the Nantahala where he will be engaged as ranger assistant.

The following intra-unit changes have been effected recently:  
Mississippi: District Forest Ranger William W. Bergoffen from the Biloxi to the Bienville RD.

SC&Croatan: Jr. Landscape Architect Walter D. Popham from the Supervisor's office to the Long Cane RD.

Pisgah: Jr. Forester John J. Olson from the French Broad to the Pisgah RD; Jr. Forester William W. Huber from the Mt. Mitchell to the Pisgah RD.

Texas: Jr. Forester Harry N. Rounsefell from the Angelina to the Crockett RD.

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<p>The sympathy of their many friends in the Region is extended to Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Bradfield on the death of Mrs. Bradfield's father, James A. Clifton, who died at Russellville, Arkansas on April 8.</p>
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## THE CHIEF VISITS THE REGION

Mr. F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, paid a visit to the Regional Office on April 1 and spoke to the assembled personnel. It was a privilege to hear his inspirational talk. It gave us a broader vision of our field work and a better understanding of the "reason back of the rules".

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## THE LOOKOUT

George A. Duthie, Chief of Education of the Washington office, recently spent a couple of days in the Regional Office. Mr. Duthie has been in the field with Messrs. Luey, Davis and Branch, giving assistance and direction on the fire prevention picture which is being filmed. He expressed satisfaction with the progress being made in the work on this film.

Dr. John P. Shea was a speaker on the program at the Eastern Psychological Association at Bryn Mawr on March 31 and April 1, and also at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology meeting of Duke and North Carolina Universities at Chapel Hill on April 7 and 8.

Among visitors to the Regional Office during the past month were Messrs. McArdle, Jemison, Nelson, Barrett, and Roberts of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station; Messrs. Cook, Buhler, Ward, and Phillips of the Division of State and Private Forestry, Washington office; Messrs. Baker, Goulden, Wieseheugel, and Burrage of T.V.A.; Messrs. Baker, Allen, and Young of the Florida Forest Service of Tallahassee; Messrs. Demmon, Bull, Bickford, and Bond of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, and Mr. H. Wallace of New York City.

A meeting of the personnel of the Regional Office was held in the District Court Room of the Old Post Office building on March 16. The subject of the March meeting was "The Fire Problem In The South". Those taking part in the program were Dr. Shea and Messrs. Eberly and Paddock.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh S. Redding of the Ozark who announce the birth of a daughter, Vivian Delaney Redding, on March 29, 1939.

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## MORE COMMENTS ON FIELD OFFICE INSPECTION

Comments, mostly via the "grapevine", on my article on field office inspection in the December issue of the Dixie Ranger indicates that there is some difference in opinion as to the time required to complete an inspection of the average Ranger and Camp office.

The time required for the inspection depends, of course, on the thoroughness of the job. The requirements set up in the regional outlines were made mandatory and the Regional Forester has very forcibly reminded us that a thorough job must be done. It is true that a hurried, spot checking form of inspection can be made in half the time required for a thorough inspection, but if any job is worth doing at all, it is worth doing right. A slipshod, spot checking audit or inspection not only fails to accomplish the purpose of the inspection but lays the auditor or inspector wide open for criticism in the future should he fail to uncover erroneous practices which are later brought to light through other sources. Another factor, if made a part of the inspection and it certainly should be, and one greatly affecting the time required for the inspection, is training. The inspection, in my opinion, should not be limited to a routine inspection but should serve a dual purpose by including training, training the field employees in the proper procedures, better methods of accomplishing the work and increasing their knowledge to better fit them for their jobs. To me, the training value is of far more importance than the inspection. The inspection itself reveals only what has taken place in the past, which is "water over the dam", whereas the training received is of future value in increased efficiency and insurance of correct procedures, thereby preventing "pitfalls" in the future.

Considerable thought and study has been given the subjects of inspection and training in Mississippi and Supervisor Conarro has recently inaugurated a system of combined inspection and training, with emphasis on training, which will pay big dividends. Annually, or oftener if time permits, the Assistant Supervisor and the Administrative Assistant will make a general inspection of each ranger district, the Assistant Supervisor covering every phase of field work, including organization, and the Administrative Assistant confining his inspection to the offices. The inspections require approximately two weeks. At the conclusion of the inspection, other Staff Assistants are called in (one at a time as his particular activity comes up for discussion) and with the Ranger and his staff, the findings are thoroughly discussed and the necessary action to correct erroneous procedures taken. Problems which are brought to light and which because of time limitation cannot be immediately solved are assigned to the Staff Assistant concerned. Staff Assistants continue, of course, to make periodic functional inspections.

Clerical help in Mississippi constitutes fifteen percent of the overhead salaries, all funds, which time is spent in handling paper work and records practically all of which originates in the

field. With this work properly handled at the point of origin, I am sure the clerical overhead could be reduced. The field personnel are very receptive to training along this line and such training is certainly worth two to three weeks per year per district of the Administrative Assistant's time.

-- H. P. Nichols, Administrative Assistant  
Mississippi National Forests

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### VIRGIN TIMBER

Have you stood 'mongst virgin timber  
Where an ax has never rung;  
In the deep moss of a forest  
That was old when you were young;  
In a woodland as God made it  
For the song-bird and the faun;  
In a fastness of creation  
Where small miracles are born?  
Have you seen tall timber swaying  
In the sky-winds; seen the sun  
Filter through pitch-fragrant branches;  
Seen the shades when day was done,  
Creeping in 'mongst mighty columns  
Like the stirring mists that hung  
Over earth when it was making,  
Over life as 'twas begun?  
There's a sermon, there's a lesson,  
There's a thrill man cannot match,  
There's a meeting with the Maker  
'Neath a virgin timber thatch.

-- Stanley Foss Bartlett  
American Forests





